(c) if so, whether licences have been given by Government for the manufacturing of such Herbal Medicines; and

(d) if so, the names of such firms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Government are not aware of any method known as 'Cohobation method' for preparation of essence of medicines from plants in the recognised systems of medicines.

(b) Essences/flavours added to medicines and prepared from plants do not require a separate licence for manufacture under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Aids in Agra

2418. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Press Reports to the effect that AIDS is sweeping through Agra; and

(b) what steps have been taken by the National AIDS Control Organisation to control the spreading of this fatal disease in the world famous tourist centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the spread of HIV infection within the country including in Uttar Pradesh. A comprehensive Plan with assistance from the World Bank and W.H.O. has been taken up in hand for prevention and control of AIDS in the country in close coordination with the State Governments. The stress is on prevention as AIDS has no cure as of now. The Programme components consists of strengthening management, increasing the level of awareness in community and individuals, increasing safety of blood and blood products, augmenting STD Control Programme and improving clinical management and surveillance. The scheme launched is for the whole country and not for a particular city.

Eradication of Malafia

2419. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is among nine Malaria prone countries in the South-East Asia region with over 700 million people facing the risk of contracting malaria;

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to eradicate malaria;

(c) whether it is also a fact that mosquitoes have become resistant to conventional insecticides; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken to invest more effective insecticides ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following measures are being undertaken for control and containment of the disease malaria :—

(1) *Anti-Vector Measures*

(a) *Chemicals methods*

— Spraying with appropriate insecticides like DDT/BHC Malathion

— Weekly application of anti-larval chemicals in water bodies in Urban areas.

(b) *Biological methods*

— Introduction of Larvivorous fishes wherever feasible.

(2) *Anti-Parasitic Measures*

— Case detection and prompt treatment with appropriate anti-malarials.

(3) Personal Protection measures by the use of clinically impregnated bednets wherever feasible, being proposed to